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Highlights of the 1979 annual meeting; Through the ages

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The Annual Business Meeting of the Academy of Accounting Historians was held on August 22nd in Honolulu, Hawaii, in conjunction with the American Accounting Association. Participants included members from all regions of the U.S. and a number of other countries. In his introductory remarks, President Hanns-Martin Schoenfeld noted that current membership stands at 379, of which 287 are from the U.S. and 92 from other countries. Subscriptions for the Accounting Historians Journal total 512, which includes 133 subscribers who are not presently members of the Academy. President Schoenfeld also noted that the Fourth Charles Waldo Haskins Seminar will be held in conjunction with the Third International Congress of Accounting Historians meeting, London, August 16-18, 1980. Reports from London indicate that 48 persons have committed themselves to presenting papers, 17 of them from the U.S., 11 from the U.K., and the remainder from other countries. Eric Castle, from the U.K., pointed out at the meeting that 1980 will be the centenary year of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. President Schoenfeld stated that the 5th and 6th Haskins Seminars are planned to be held, one of them at a meeting with the Business History Conference at the University of Illinois and the other in the Northwest U.S., the respective places yet to be identified.

Treasurer Krzystofik distributed a set of financial statements and added comments related to various fund accounts and activities. Edward Coffman discussed the availability of the 2nd bound volume of Working Papers, which is now in press. Regional Chairpersons present at the meeting (Diana Flamholtz-Western, Ken Elvik-Midwestern, Horace Givens-Mid Atlantic, Richard Brief-Northeastern) gave reports on regional meetings during the past year. Gyan Chandra and Dale Flesher gave a report for the Membership Committee. Diana Flamholtz reported activities of the Research Committee, Richard Vangermeersch discussed progress by the Archives Committee and distributed a report including availability of historical materials available at certain locations.

In the absence of Williard Stone, Gary Previts gave the editorial report. He reported that from August 1, 1978 to July 31, 1979, 32 manuscripts were submitted to The Accounting Historians Journal. Of these, 3 were accepted, 11 were rejected, 13 were returned with suggestions for revision, and 5 were still in process of review. Total manuscripts in the revision stage: 17 (13 included above and 4 from previous years). Of these 17, 10 have now been accepted, 1 rejected, and 6 remain in process. Gary also discussed the growing number of items now being published by the Academy. Dale Buckmaster was identified as the new Book Review Editor of The Journal, replacing Ken Elvik, as of Volume 7.

President Schoenfeld announced the winner of the Hourglass Award as Murray C. Wells for his Accounting for Common Costs and A Bibliography of Cost Accounting-Its Origins and Development to 1914, both published as Monograph No. 10 by the Center for International Education and Research in Accounting. In the absence of Wells, the Award was accepted by Robert Gibson of Deakin University. Following the presentation, new officers for 1980 were elected.

President: Richard P. Brief, New York University
Vice-President: H. Thomas Johnson, Western Washington University — Kenneth O. Elvik, Iowa State University
Treasurer: Richard Vangermeersch, University of Rhode Island
Richard Vangermeersch will take over the Treasurer’s post immediately to replace Anthony Krzyzstofik, who is taking leave of absence from his teaching post. Alfred R. Roberts will continue as Secretary. New trustees include Hans V. Johnson, Horace Givens, Felix Pomeranz, Anthony Krzyzstofik, Hanns-Martin Schoenfeld, and Vernon K. Zimmerman, who was re-elected to another 3 year term.

President Schoenfeld thanked H. Thomas Johnson for organizing this year’s technical sessions, which were well attended. Also of considerable interest was selection of Maurice Moonitz to The Accounting Hall of Fame and Academy trustee George Sorter’s selection as the American Accounting Association’s Outstanding Educator.

Kenneth O. Elvik

... Through the Ages

Academy members were saddened to hear of the untimely death of William Holmes on May 12, 1979. An audit manager with Peat Marwick Mitchell & Co. in Boston, Holmes was a charter member of the Academy and a frequent contributor to the literature on accounting history.